

23660

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor Willem J. QUADAKKERS

Patent App. 10/586,089

Filed 13 July 2006 Conf. No. 1161

For PROTECTIVE LAYER FOR AN ALUMINUM-CONTAINING  
ALLOY FOR HIGH

Art Unit 1793 Examiner Fogarty, C

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMUNICATION

Applicant is filing this communication in order to request that the Examiner lift the suspension of the prosecution of this application. Applicant requested the suspension as part of Applicant's Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114 in order for the Applicant's undersigned representative to conduct a telephone interview with the Examiner in order to determine whether Applicant had sufficiently amended the claims in response to the office action mailed 9 November 2009 in which the Examiner finally rejected all claims under 35 USC 112, first and second paragraphs, as well as under 35 USC 103 as obvious in view of the cited prior art, so as to overcome all of the bases for rejection of the claims.

Applicant wishes to thank Examiners King and Fogarty for conducting a telephone interview today with the undersigned. The undersigned summarized the arguments set forth in Applicant's amendment filed 18 January 2010 stressing that the Al-containing

alloy substrate is a foil having a specified thickness of 0.003 to 0.1 mm and that the non-aluminum oxide layer deposited on the Al-containing alloy substrate has a thickness of up to 1000 nm which results in formation of a stable  $\alpha$ -aluminum oxide protective layer on the surface of the substrate. Applicant's foils have utility in high temperature applications, including automobile catalyst substrates whereas the GUGEL alloys are disclosed as useful in forming nuts and bolts and the like.

The Examiners indicated that the Applicant had in fact overcome in his amendment filed 18 January 2010, all of the bases for rejection of the claims as set forth in the preceding office action. The Examiners stated, however, that they planned to conduct a further search of the prior art in order to consider the changes in the claims and the arguments in support of the amended claims advanced by the Applicant.

Applicant awaits further action.

K.F. Ross P.C.

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